

MILWAUKIE CUSTOM-HOUSE.

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LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

RELATIVE TO

*The insufficiency of the building authorized to be constructed at Milwaukee for a custom-house.*

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DECEMBER 22, 1854.—Referred to the Committee on Commerce, and ordered to be printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
December 21, 1854.

SIR: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of December 18, "requesting the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the House whether, in his opinion, the building authorized, by act of last session, to be erected at Milwaukee for a custom-house, post office, and court-room, is sufficiently large to accommodate properly those purposes," I have the honor to state that, in the opinion of this department, the building so authorized is insufficient for the prospective business of the city of Milwaukee, and that it is barely sufficient for the present business of the post office, the main object to be accommodated in its erection.

I have, therefore, the honor to recommend that instead of the brick building authorized at the last session, at an expense of \$50,000, authority be given for the erection of a stone building, 85 by 60 feet, and 60 feet high from the foundation, thoroughly fire-proof, with floors constructed of iron beams and brick-work, iron roof, shutters, sills, &c., which it is estimated will cost \$88,000; and that, in addition to that amount, ten per cent. thereon be appropriated to cover the compensation of architects and superintendents, and for drawing plans, lithographing the same, and other contingent expenses.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,

JAMES GUTHRIE,  
Secretary of the Treasury.

Hon. LINN BOYD,  
Speaker House of Representatives.

